

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/037,845	SHOENFELD, NORMAN A.
	Examiner Erick Rekstad	Art Unit 2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on March 21, 2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12 and 14-17.
3. The drawings filed on 17 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is an Allowance for application no. 10/037,845 in response to the amendment filed March 21, 2005 in which claims 1-12 and 14-17 are presented for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-12 and 14-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims pertain to a High-resolution sheet metal scanner using machine vision that the Examiner was unable to find in several prior art searches.

The closest prior art (Doering US Patent 5,184,217) discloses a similar sheet metal scanner. As shown in Figure 1, Doering teaches a sheet metal scanner using machine vision for checking the accuracy of openings drilled or punched into a mechanical part (Col 2 Lines 12-20, Fig. 1). The scanner contains a lower assembly, which includes a housing (12). Doering teaches the use of a carriage assembly (22) and can perform movement in two orthogonal directions in a horizontal plane (Col 4 Lines 24-45, Fig. 1). The scanner further includes a flat transparent support plate (Col 3 Lines 57-65, Fig. 1). A camera assembly (30) is mounted on said carriage (22). A linear illuminator mounted above said lower assembly and providing a substantially uniform light along a line in one of said orthogonal directions and being linearly movable in the other of said orthogonal directions across said support plate (26) (Col 4 Lines 1-3, Fig. 1). The scanner also includes a control means coupled with said carriage assembly and with said camera assembly for guiding said camera assembly in a controlled

scanning pattern within said lower assembly housing and processing image data of said part based on pixels produced by said camera assembly imager (150) (Col 6 Lines 54-67, Fig. 1). The illuminator control means for linearly moving said illuminator in the other of said orthogonal directions to track motion of said camera carriage member (Col 6 Line 54-Col 7 Line 32). However, Doering does not teach the scanner wherein said linear illuminator is mechanically independent of said camera carriage assembly. This feature taken with the others in the claims define over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erick Rekstad whose telephone number is 571-272-7338. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Erick Rekstad
Examiner
AU 2613
(571) 272-7338
erick.rekstad@uspto.gov

9L


GIMS PHILIPPE
PRIMARY EXAMINER